

ABENG

"We want our People to think for themselves"

MARCUS GARVEY



Vol. 1 No. 31 August 30th, 1969

University orders Rastafari to move

Two Rastafari brethren have been ordered to quit unused University lands and each fined £108. 15s for damage to the land. Ras Shadrach and Bro Nick are to appear in court on the 19th of September.

This land is outside the University campus boundaries in the hills of Long Mountain area where there is neither electricity nor running water. This wood-land has been made habitable by the brethren who spent years clearing it with the knowledge of the University authorities.

Ras Shadrach values his property at £500. This includes a house he has just completed, his cultivation of corn, vegetables, peas, pumpkin and other ground provisions plus goats, chickens and pigs. Bro. Nick values his won at £300 which includes his house, cultivation and his poultry. He also sells coal and makes pottery.

The Chief Security Officer has argued that Ras Tafari is a threat to campus security. So he did his best to upset the celebration of Haile Selassie's 77th Birthday last month. And just recently the University closed the Students' Union, in fact directed against certain youths and Ras Tafari.

Vice-Chancellor Roy Marshall has made it clear that the suppression of these forces has begun. Very strict security measures are now effective as the campus is now a hotbed for Intelligence activity. This applies not only to the local 110 Greek informers but also to North American Peace Corps, Volunteers, and students who after service-training have been screened for this work on the Mona campus.

Nain-Alpart source of Imperialist domination

Any conscious visitor to Nain Alpart is faced with the offensive physical presence of Imperialism.

As you enter, the first thing that strikes you is the private airstrip. Overnight this could be changed in order to bring thousands of the enemy into our midst.

The entrance to the plant itself is guarded by security men who demand that you furnish a very good reason in order to gain entrance, and a desire to see for yourself what is happening is not considered one. You cannot fail to notice the sign "No Cameras Allowed."

Only twelve miles away the aliens control a port which can accommodate all the unwanted warships which make Jamaica a port of call ever more frequently as more and more money is poured into the island. More oppression and suppression of Blackman.

Alpart is subversive. Why else is there so much secrecy? What activities are actually carried out within the plant?

Blackman will not be bought out by the millions of pounds they plan to pour into the community while robbing them of billions; nor will conscious Blackman be fooled by the propaganda that appears in the daily Establishment press—the most recent example being the report of the appointment of a few Jamaicans in house-slave positions accompanied by the headline "Alpart's Jamaicanisation drive."

Blackman already knows the true meaning of those words and is committed to the struggle which this Imperial stronghold demands.



CANADIAN MERCENARY SOLDIERS LOADING RAZORINA AT PORTLAND RUSHING MARCH

CANADIAN SOLDIERS TO RETURN

If Blackman before this was foolish enough to believe that the puppet-imperialist-Shearer misgovernment would hold back from turning the guns of Foreign white mercenaries on him then the arrival in Jamaica this week of an advance party of high-ranking Canadian Armed Forces officers should put these silly thoughts out of his head once and for all.

These white Canadian mercenaries arrived in Jamaica on Monday, and the official Government communiqué announcing their visit disclosed that they were here "to make advance preparations for a training exercise to be held near Port Antonio in November, ... similar to the one held in March this year." In less than eight months, two sets of training for Canadian Army mercenaries in the bushes of the Jamaican countryside!

The communiqué went on: "The main party, comprising members of the Canadian Airborne Regiment, supported by members of the Canadian Air Transport Command and Canadian Aircraft, will arrive later in the year."

What section of the Canadian Armed Forces is missing from among these "visitors"? The Canadian NAVY! Why? Simple. It is in Shearer's interest to have his mercenary gunners here in a matter of hours when he calls for them. Sea transport is far too slow for that! So, rest the Navy boys!

The communiqué went on: "While here the advance group will work closely in co-operation with the Jamaica Defence Force to arrange for supplies and all other necessary provisions for the exercise."

What does "closely in co-operation" really mean? Simply, the JDF is to be given the necessary training and experience in the handling and assembly of heavy military equipment so that when the time comes they can do their real work, which is, to be hand-maiden and accomplices to foreign aggression against the Jamaican people.

ABENG is blowing the facts for all to hear. Is this quick succession of military exercises on Jamaican soil part of a military agreement between the Canadian and Jamaican Governments? If so how long has it

been in existence? Such an agreement can have only one aim: the protection of white imperialist property interests against the will of the Jamaican people, and, purely as a by-product, the maintenance in power of the political puppets. It follows other preparations by the enemy—the conference of Home Affairs Ministers in the bushes of Guyana, and Jamaica's admission to membership in the OAS.

Why else, since Canada has no jungles, did the commanding officer of the 15,000 Canadian mercenaries in the hills of Portland last March, describe the terrain as "ideal for training in the technique of jungle WARFARE"? Why did these white invaders establish an air and radio network covering the whole of Jamaica?

But if the political puppets on imperialist strings insist on making secret agreements to bring outside military aggression against our people, agreements which violate the security, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Jamaican homeland, then the people must see that their rights are upheld. They and only they can guarantee these rights. It is only the combined power of all the people that will ultimately withstand imperialist aggression. Today it is that same power that will thwart the imperialists in their preparations for aggression.

With this in mind, the following procedures ought to be carried out: 1) Once you have identified the Canadian mercenaries, follow them wherever they go. They should be followed on foot and in cars. Follow them with more than one group at a time, changing positions frequently. They can most easily be sighted by looking out for the local military stooges whom they beckon and call. 2) Make sure to identify whatever pieces of equipment they are carrying.

3) If you have to come into contact with them frequently, look out for all maps and documents. Also listen in on all their conversations. Be sure to fill them into your confidence.

4) At all times give them false information. In war, this is a most costly thing to inflict on an enemy. 5) Take as many photographs to identify the individuals. White mercenaries are clever. Today a machine-gunner, tomorrow a worker at Alpart.

6) Send all information, documents, photographs, maps to the Abeng Editorial Committee. It does not matter if it seems insignificant or meaningless to you. Every piece of information fits some other piece. Every piece counts.

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!
NO COOPERATION WITH THE ENEMY!

MIGNON charged!

It is reported that the Director of Prisons, Lt. Col. Glen Mignon has been summoned to appear in Court at Half-Way-Tree in connection with the shooting of Mr. Bruce Bravo on the 7th of June last. Lt. Col. Mignon, the report states, has been charged with (1) shooting with Intent and (2) wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm to Mr. Bravo.

The incident was first reported in the Star of June 25, and was taken up by Abeng in its issue of July 19, demanding that Mignon be brought to trial.

It is presumed that Mignon will be suspended from his duties as Prisons Director until the outcome of the trial.

Readers

As from next week (September 1) the office of ABENG will be at 14a Rousseau Road, (corner of Beechwood Avenue & Rousseau Road).

Bongo Nevill case Dismissed



BONGO NEVILLE

The cases against Bongo Neville and Francisco Jarrett were dismissed at the end of the prosecutions case on Monday in the Petty Sessions Court at Sutton Street. The charges arose out of an incident in June last when Bongo Neville and 'Macko' were selling Abeng along King Street in front of Times Store. They were arrested and "roughed up" by the police including 2 women constables and both charged with "failing to move on". Bongo Neville was charged, in addition, with assaulting the police, resisting arrest and using indecent language.

The trial started on the 12th of August and was adjourned to Monday the 25th, of August when the Justices heard submissions by Counsel for the defence that the evidence for the prosecution had been so discredited that it could not be relied on. At the end of the submissions the Justices ruled that there was no case for the accused to answer on all the charges and they were accordingly dismissed.

Right to work, live

By the Secretariat
Greenwich Town Citizen's Council

We bring to public and government attention that although construction continues, new industries and commercial services go into operation and new jobs are created in our community, political discrimination continue to dominate the employment process. Our community is therefore committed to continue its protests and demands for fair distribution of available jobs and a secured income.

The majority of job-seekers in our community testifies that jobs are distributed through JLP branches and endorsed by the Government Employment Bureau. And that front line JLP henchmen occupy three-four and more jobs at the same time.

The most glaring case of this gross injustice and corruption can be proven any day at the wharves and involves both JLP and PNP supporters alike. The majority of these port workers hire destitute unemployed to work their shifts at half price and less while they go on to do other jobs. Some acquire as much as four stubs to work one or two shifts in unloading cargo boats. The destitute unemployed who are given these stubs to work are paid £1, £1.5/- or £1.10/- at the most per day, while the daily rates are from £2.19/- up. And these destitute unemployed who does the work are not entitled to sick, accident or other fringe benefits.

Some of these port workers who are allowed to carry on this ruthless practice owns small businesses and do no work at all. They simply use their port-workers' cards as another business, grossly oppressive but highly profitable. There are also other cases of sub-contracting of labour in which individuals who are not port workers enter legal contracts with the shippers, openly paying these reduced rates to the destitute unemployed whom they hire.

While this goes on the street corners of our community are filled with unemployed youths, being driven to beg, steal or become pimps. That Government permits this is shocking and unbelievable and reveals the decadence of the politicians who constitute the administration. Once this is ended no less than two thousand jobs would be immediately available. But it won't unless we struggle vigorously to effect it.

The unemployed of our community must therefore constantly patrol the construction sites and every centre of employment within our community and mount our protests and demands. All those who now work the shifts must be given official status as port workers.

A census of the prevailing social problems of our community which generates from unemployment must also be taken. We must know the urgent social problems of every man, woman and child within our community and present it to Government to be resolved.

We must organise certain elders of our community who stand aloof of the community problems and get them to move with us.

These members of our community currently employed must be committed to raise our protests and demands within their trade unions and seek ways and means to strengthen our struggle until victory is won.

Everyone within our community must be committed: "be numbered on the side struggling for the welfare of our community and social justice or be condemned".

Zambia Faces the rest of Southern Africa

BY NOEL WHITE

Zambia lies in a key position in Africa bordering as it does on Angola and Mozambique, two Portuguese colonies which are rebelling against colonial rule, on Rhodesia which declared unilateral independence from Britain so that the white minority could continue to dominate, and on South-West Africa which is at present under the control of white supremacists. Situated as it is Zambia can be overcome by a combination of the White forces and she can act as a centre for African rebels who would bring independence and democratic rule to the countries around her. Jamaicans should follow carefully then every move that President Kaunda makes and give him what support they can.

Recently Zambia has called for a meeting of the Security Council to deal with an incident on her borders with the Portuguese. Since 1966 there have been 61 incidents on her borders with the Portuguese in Angola and Mozambique. Portuguese have been crossing into Zambian territory and kidnapping people. Hitherto Zambia has sought to deal with these incidents by bilateral talks with the Portuguese governments. But on June 30th a plane from Mozambique raided a Zambian border town and killed two civilians. This has put a different picture on the border incidents and President Kaunda has therefore taken the matter to the Security Council. He has had the support of the other black African nations. At the time of writing of this article, the expectation is that the Security Council will censure Portugal but that 4 members, France, Britain, the United States and Spain will abstain from voting.

The Portuguese are accusing Zambia of supplying a place of refuge for the rebels of Angola and Mozambique. Zambia's reply is that she is permitted to give sanctuary to genuine refugees. This applies to all countries. Up to now, say the Zambians, they have pursued a policy of non-violence but Portuguese activity is causing second thoughts. They are also pointing out to the United Nations that the Portuguese are using against the Africans weapons supplied to Portugal by N.A.T.O.

In this situation of increasing crisis the Zambian Chief Justice has seen it fit to quash prison sentences against two Portuguese soldiers who were punished for a border incident. He has done this on the basis of the law of Zambia. And since the Chief Justice has not recognized that the Portuguese are enemies President Kaunda is reported to be planning to replace him and others like him.

African nations are expected to renew their efforts to pressure the Security Council into obliging South Africa to give up her control of South-West Africa. When this country gains independence it is expected that the inhabitants will call it Namibia.

<..the living hell>

Life behind bars is a terrible thing. It is not a bed of roses. It is the living hell. Maybe you have asked yourself how can a man, of even ordinary intelligence put up with this kind of life day in, day out, week after week, months after months, year after year? You might wonder whence do I draw sufficient courage to endure it. To begin with, these words seems written on the walls of my cell. Nothing can be worth this. No one knows what it is like to suffer from the intellectual atrophy the pernicious mental scurvy that makes life real. Because even the analogy of thirst cannot possibly give you an inkling of what it is like to be tortured by absence of everything that make life worth living.

A prisoner cannot keep from being haunted by a vision of life as it used to be when it was Real and lovely. At such a time I pay with a sense of overwhelming. These words I did write on the table of my heart. For many years and to my grave they will go with me. In the past I had spent most of my youth behind bars. Because of injustice and until this day the past seems to be with me everywhere I go. But there is no one that can prevent the reaction of a human mind when he is barred from progress for most of his life and for no real reason.

I just cannot begin to explain the pangs of hell one has to bear behind prison walls. Prisons in general are no beds of roses, so I cannot see how any well-thinking person, with a reasonable mind, can believe that prison is the best place to send one when he committed an act that is far beyond his control. People should stop and think again. I am not saying that when ever one commits an inhuman act he should be set free. But what I know is that most of the men behind bars are deprived of justice in every way. It is injustice that put most of our youths behind prison walls.

But it seems as if no one has ever stopped to find out why so many youths are in prison. This is mainly because of injustice, and not until all who support these acts of injustice come together and do something about it, that anything will be done. This is self-evident, that all men are created equal and are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights. That among these are; Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. People may be deprived of their Freedom, but still retain Personal Rights.

It seems to me as if human life is absolutely of no account in the St. Catherine District Prison. An innumerable amount of Human Life cut short by unheard of brutality. There is no reasonable mind that will not react against cruelty. The State employs thousands of people to put you in jail if you do the wrong, but there is not one to help you when you are unjustly convicted.

I was unjustly convicted and sent to prison for 6 long years. Now, I was completely isolated from the rest of the world mainly because of injustice. But although I was isolated,

there was something deep down inside of me telling me that prison and crime was not for me. Because I am for progress and there is none behind bars. There is much sorrows and bitterness there. I am sure thousands of youths are in prison in this island, and they are without hope.

They are from one approved school to another, then to the G.P. and the St. Catherine D.P. where there is still no hope for them to become somebody. There is no programme of training in these prisons. I think it is time now, that emphasis should be placed on the Reformation of Prisoner Rehabilitation. Brutality cannot reform anyone, and that is the main thing that goes on in the prisons. Brutality only make one become more bitter. — the most grievous inhuman acts committed against prisoners every day in this prison and there is no one to do justice from Caesar to Caesar. But I would like to ask one question, 'Men, who are sent to prison, are they not still human beings and are entitled to Constitutional Rights? Why do the prison authorities ~~are~~ the rights to carry on this blatant suppression upon our Constitutional Rights?

Prisoners are constantly kept on a semi-starvation diet for no just reason. Prisoners are murdered, beaten and as a result suffer broken legs, hands and skull; and it is covered up inside the prison, by the doctor and the superintendent. But there is still a lot of evidence at the Spanish Town Hospital to prove this.

Just a few weeks ago, a prisoner was murdered at the G.P. and the killers are still at large. But I have this to say to all those who are supporting the killing of innocent men in the free world and in prison, who are saying crime will stop by killing innocent people. They all make one of the biggest mistakes in their lives.

I have made a study of our prisons and I have discovered that almost all the prisoners are poor people and are children of the poor. I also discovered that most of the prisoners are ignorant or the children of the ignorant. It seems to me then, that poverty and ignorance make people commit crime. So, if all those who are saying to kill would come together and find a way to do away with poverty and ignorance, they would be much better off in the long run.

Most of the men behind bars are born children of conditions and circumstance. There are many youths behind the St. Catherine prison walls doing terms ranging from 5 years to 20 years. And even life imprisonment, and yet, there is still no programme of rehabilitation set out for the reformation of these helpless youths whom the government move from one prison to the other. All that is handed down to these poor youths, each day, is lots of brutality. I don't know what would really happen to many of us if we did not get the help of the Almighty.

The whole surroundings of the prison is insanitary and you cannot get any medical care inside the prison that is so badly insanitary.

I am INNOCENT, but I REMEMBER.

11/8/69.



The Myth of King Sugar



'Sugar Boy' Robert Kirkwood hanging on

Whenever members of the community raise questions concerning the future of the sugar industry and the plantation system both the Government and the sugar estates adopt postures which are generally interpreted as aggressive — they challenge questioners to provide practical and detailed answers to their own questions. I think it is necessary for us to expose the sham of these postures as they are nothing more than red herrings (from across the waters) which are designed to confuse and confound the public.

The first implication of their attitude is that the burden of proof as to the practicability and feasibility of any ideas on this subject lies on the heads of those who make them. Let it be known clearly, loudly, strongly and unambiguously that this responsibility is primarily a governmental one. It is they with their vast administrative and research facilities, their access to information (more often secret than not) on whom the burden of evaluating ideas lies. It is nothing but arrogant nonsense and a device aimed at resisting change to charge the responsibility to the individual citizen or to individual groups — particularly when both the government and the sugar estate make a virtue out of the secrecy of statistical information which they may have.

The second implication of their attitude is that before the issue of diversification can be decided it is necessary to have concrete details of the diversification programme. I could not agree with this more completely. But one must also recognise two concomitant points. First, is that these precise details (as I said before) can only follow on a programme of governmental evaluation. The other, and this is related to the sugar boys in particular, is that if one must justify the case for every acre of land subject to a diversification programme — then similarly they must justify the case for every acre of land they bring under sugar. Yet, let it be noted this has not occurred and since the end of the Second World War the acreage of land under sugar cane has more than trebled with hardly a murmur on the question of alternatives.

Now that the sugar industry finds that they have reached the extensive limits of their land frontier they come to us in all "innocence" on the question of alternatives. Thus tonight when I speak on the question of sugar and alternatives it must be clearly recognised that I am not on the defensive but I am in fact throwing down a challenge to both the sugar and governmental interests on the questions of land use and the burdens of the sugar industry on the rest of the community posed by its present shape, form, size and location.

As soon as the issues of diversification is raised the plantation boys throw their hands in the air and shout the question, why use our lands for this, if there is other idle land in the community? Put in this way their question raises and even more profound and disturbing issue. How can a poor, land-hungry island economy, really have 'idle' land? And, if this land is idle what are the institutional restraints which prevent its going into production. My answer in brief is the plantation system. It is the plantation system which contributes to the fact that 0.7% of the farms in Jamaica occupy 56% of total acreage whilst 71% of the farms occupy 12% of total acreage.

The problem of sugar is to be seen and analysed in the context of total planning and resource use. As far as land use is concerned it is impossible to do this and at the same time hold as sacrosanct the 25% of the country's best cultivable land now under sugar. From this comprehensive standpoint it is also obvious that the merits or demerits of diversification cannot be based on any simplistic measure of how much we get per acre of sugar as against other crops. We have seen that a great deal of the cost of sugar production are hidden and indirect. In the diversification programme which I shall outline a great deal of the benefits derive from the fact that the 'new' forms of agriculture which I recommend create the basis for other industries within the economy and unlike sugar it is not necessary to have the real industrial use of the material i.e., sugar refining, done outside of our shores.

The first problem of land utilisation is the land held in excess by the plantation. Total acreage belonging to the sugar manufacturers is in excess of 200,000 acres (and this comes from the Mordecai Report despite Kirkwood's claim that it is 170,000 acres) of which at most 80,000 acres is cultivated. The explanations offered for this situation is that the unused land is unsuitable for sugar and agriculture. Apart from wondering about the economics of buying land which is useless, apart from raising questions of honesty, it seems to me that if the land is too hilly as it is often claimed then it should be evaluated for use as the basis of an afforestation programme. Forestry demands on soil are minimal. Projected imports of pulp and paper for the whole of the West Indies will be in the region of 25,000 tons by 1975 at a value of about £14m. at 1962 prices. In Jamaica alone in 1965 import values of pulp, wood and paper is £8m. A programme of afforestation also aids conservation and thus yields other indirect benefits. The first line of enquiry therefore is the forest potential of the so-called 'useless' land held by the plantation estates. This potential has to be examined on the basis of the feasibility of an integrated set of activities centring on a pulp and paper manufacturing industry.

The second area of diversification is into vegetable production. Here it has often been claimed (as done in the Mordecai Report) that

500 acres each of onions, carrots, cucumber, tomatoes, peas, Irish potatoes and sweet potatoes would satisfy current Jamaican consumption levels. This leads to a total acreage of 3,500 acres. A little reflection will show that this is not a good enough answer although it has been used to minimize the importance of vegetable production. Per caput consumption of vegetable is about 75 lbs. per year, of potatoes about 18 lbs. per year. This average figure hides vast disparities and clearly suggests that the bulk of the community is under consuming vegetables at the desirable nutritional level. If we place the demand for vegetables in a dynamic context i.e. one in which we aim at desirable nutritional standards, we eliminate unemployment which is government's responsibility to do, we recognise population is growing at just under 3% per annum, and government undertakes its responsibility to ensure a more equitable distribution of income and if, in addition, we recognise that the demand for vegetables grows at least 1½ times as fast as incomes then we recognise that the land requirements for vegetables are vastly in excess of that which is bandied about by the S.M.A., the press and the Governments. Their estimate is based on the present levels of poverty and immiseration of the vast majority of

our people. Locally grown vegetables unlike sugar offer the prospect of utilising indigenous foodstuffs for processing and canning. Therefore its contribution to output, income and employment is not limited to the yield of output per acre multiplied by price as is often claimed, but to the total complex of activities which follow from locally grown vegetables.

The third area of diversification is into meat and dairying. The Mordecai Report concedes that these activities have a greater profitability per acre than sugar but the Report dismissed it because of its high demand on farming skills. This to me is the utmost nonsense. I have seen, as anyone who has lived in the U.K. or the U.S.A. can attest, our so-called illiterate people hurried literally overnight into the most complex modern industrial societies and adjust quite easily. As long as the incentive is there the peasants can do it. And the only way to provide the incentive is to produce agricultural crops for ourselves by ourselves.

Imports of fresh beef converted to number of head of cattle in 1969 will average about 13,319 head of cattle. This requires a total stock of 76,000 to support the annual turnover. This alone is equal to one quarter of the existing population of cattle in Jamaica and on the basis of 1 acre per head on good lands (e.g. present sugar lands) would require 76,000 acres (usually 2 acres on rough land, thus 152,000 acres). Lamb and beef imports will also in 1969 be equal to 33,000 animals and would require a stock of 130,000 animals. On the basis of 1 acre to 4 sheep we have again a claim for 32,500 acres of land. As to processed beef in 1965 we imported 4½ million lbs. and on the basis of 250lbs. processed beef per animal it was equivalent to a turnover of 16,000 animals and a stock requirement of 90,000 acres of best lands stock requirement of 90,000 animals, and a further acreage requirement of 90,000 acres of best lands (or 180,000 acres of poor land). Milk imports also equalled in 1965, 20 million lbs. Butter imports 7 million lbs., cheese and curd 3 million lbs. The import of butter and cheese was equal to about that produced by 40,000 head of dairy cattle as an annual turnover and a stock requirement of about 60,000 animals with an acreage of 60,000 acres of good land. Milk imports would require an annual turnover of 5,000 animals, a stock of 9,000 animals and an acreage of 9,000 acres. All of this ignores the fact that current meat consumption is only 30lbs. per head per year and milk products 55 lbs. per head per year. When the other dynamic factors referred to in our look at vegetable production are taken into account it is clear that the acreage and cattle requirements would be significantly higher. The acreage totalled so far is 226,000 acres of good

(Turn to Page 4)

Can Ja. afford this?

Table of Food Consumption

COMMODITY	CONSUMPTION PER CAPUT
Beef	1¼ lbs. per month
Pig, goat	
sheep meat	2¼ ozs. " "
Butter	5¼ ozs. " "
Cheese	3 ozs. " "
Milk	2½ lbs. " "
Eggs	3 — " "
Fish	3¼ lbs. " "
Rice	2½ lbs. " "
Flour	9 lbs. " "
Textiles	10 lbs. per year
(of all kinds)	
Footwear	2 pairs per year.
(of all kinds)	

For a few Dollars more!

Change-over to dollars and cents, due next week, will hit the penny spenders first and hardest. The slogan that 10 cents will buy does not apply to the five-cent piece for no magic can turn five cents into six pennies. Those with the least to spend will feel the brutal pinch.

No amount of propaganda or conversion tables can alter the fact that there will be only 100 coins to the dollar as against 120 coins to the ten shillings, and that penny spenders will have only ten coins instead of twelve for something that is said to be worth a shilling. If you can now buy 12 bananas for twelve pennies, how many will you be able to buy for ten cents?

The poorest do their shopping literally hand to mouth. Even if the cash were there to buy in larger quantities there is no refrigerator or secure place to store food. Yet even with the smallest purchase, there can be a substantial loss. Let us say the purchase is of a half-pound 2d, a half-pound of flour 3d, a half-pound of cornmeal 2d and a quarter pound of the cheapest salt fish 7d. This adds

up to 14. There would be 8d change out of 2/- But with 2/- worth 20 cents and if pennies are counted as cents, the purchaser will get 4 cents (on 4d) change only, so she will be 4d worse off than today.

Of course, the Government says that the cent is worth more than the penny, something between a farthing and a halfpenny more. But when last did you see a farthing and half-pennies will no longer exist. In actual fact, except for a different name six pennies will be only worth five pennies next week.

We would have been better off with a 4/- dollar, divided into 100 cents to take the place of 96 half-pennies. But the political touts in both parties (touts for big money) have no time for the sufferers. They decided on a prestige dollar and

their prestige dollar will produce belly pains for the penny spenders.

More Suffering!

1) If you bought a penny 'snowball' and gave one cent to the vendor, do you know how much you would get back? Well, the answer is 2 cents. In fact you would get back nothing because the lowest coin is the cent. You will therefore lose 1/6th of a penny everytime you buy anything for a cent. In fact, the cost of a 'snowball' is 1/6th more on the 8th September than on the 7th September. THE PRICE HAS REALLY GONE UP, by what some people would say, 16%.

2) What would you say if your landlord put up your rent by 16%? Put it this way. You are paying £4.4/- per month rent and the landlord said to you, "Next month you will have to pay 14/- more per month." This is the same as your penny 'snowball'.

3) Most of us buy a box of matches, especially smokers and poorer people. On the 7th September, you will go to the shop and pay 1d for one box. But on the 8th September you will pay 2 cents for the same box of matches. Look on any Government Conversion Chart and you will see that 2 cents equal 2d or 3d. This is fantastic. How can one thing be equal to two different things?

However, our Government are masters at twisting things. They have managed to make 2 cents equal to 2d or 3d at the same time. But look a bit more closely at this matches affair. You will go and buy one box for 2 cents but 2 cents equal 2 1/2d which is nearly 2d. Therefore your box really cost you 2 1/2d and not 1d, which is an increase of 1d or as some people say 66%. Yes! Using the matches example, the upper income group will purchase a carton of 12 boxes at a 11d each or 17/- 6. The lower class will still buy their 'one-one' box or 12 boxes singly at 2 1/2d each or 29.8d (2 1/4d). This means 10 1/2d more or 55% as some people say. By The-Big's Friend

CLASSIFIED ADS

The Glenmuir High School
Old Students Association
Annual General Meeting takes
place at the School -
10 Glenmuir Road, May Pen
on 30th August, 1969
at 4:00 p.m.

Bongo Neville & F. Jarrett
as Socks as Macko

PRESENT
MUSICAL INSURRECTION
Sunday Sept. 21st
GOLD COAST BEACH CLUB
KING TUBBY'S HI-FI

Import to

SOUND OF MUSICK DISCO & RECORD MART

191A Bay Farm Road
Cor. of Olympic Way P. MUNROE Prop

BUY YOUR ABENG HERE

The myth of King Sugar CONTD.

lands for mixed farming to produce our 1969 requirements of beef and dairy products.

Meat also offers the advantage of further processing of domestic products at home but of even greater importance the skins of these animals could form the basis of a thriving leather industry, since price wise we are significantly cheaper than the sources of current imports. There is also the possibility of developing a major feedstuffs industry. Currently we import over 50 million lbs. of feedstuffs. But on the basis of a vastly expanded cattle population requiring 3 1/2-4lbs. of feed per gallon of milk produced, plus 1,000lbs. of feed for beef animals as a supplement to natural fodder if we are to operate efficiently then the feedstuffs industry would need to produce something like nearly 500 million lbs. of feed.

This leads on to the third area of diversification, the production of maize. This will not only replace present cereal imports valued at £5m. but could provide along with such products as copra meal and cake, pineapple bran, bananas, cakes and meals of wild palms etc. the basis of a vast utilization of indigenous products as an input into an indigenous industry. There are other crops which time and space prevent one from looking into. But one other deserving of mention is tobacco of which we imported 2 1/2 million lbs. in 1966 (most of it from Rhodesia).

It may be further noted that all these forms of agriculture we have considered is their high labour intensive. And this together with the manufacturing industries they can create could go some way towards solving the unemployment problem. The foreign exchange value of the products I have considered was valued at £30m. in 1966 as against £19m. gross earnings of the sugar industry.

Finally diversification of land use also involves the non-agricultural use of land for housing, recreation facilities, etc.

CHALLENGE to GOVERNMENT & the INDUSTRY

There are two points I would like to conclude with very briefly and these are of a

deliberately controversial nature. It seems to me that on the basis of present data and knowledge that the peasant farmers who produce half the sugar output are the most efficient producers of sugar. They receive, to quote the Mordecai Report, £4.17, less per ton of sugar than the estates and yet continue to produce cane. Unless they are fools, which I am certain they are not, they would not have continued to do so unless it was compensated for by greater efficiency. It should also be noted that in the evidence supplied the Mordecai Commission by the Sugar Manufacturers' Association that of the 18 estates, 13 of them claim to produce sugar at a cost of more than £40 per ton. This suggests considerable inefficiency. This is due not so much to sheer size but to the ownership structure of the industry and all its historical and sociological implications. And as a last point I think we should look at the problems of time horizon and risk. The sugar boys require guarantees for ten years and to quote this evidence to the Mordecai Report again, "even an average weighted return of 8.88% (for the 7 year period 1959-65), the Association regards as inadequate in relation to a risk industry".

Notice here, despite public pronouncements to the contrary there is the clear admission of how much risk the industry involves. Here then is my challenge. Evaluate a programme along the lines suggested on the basis of (1) continuing guaranteed markets of ten years ahead, (2) offering the incentives which now go to foreign capitalists to our local peasantry and to those who can engage in activities centred on the suggested 'new' forms of domestic agriculture (3) guarantee a return of 8.88% per annum - which the sugar estates find inadequate and calculate the risk along the lines of national and not private interest. Then tell us if sugar, particularly plantation sugar can justify its present form, shape, size and location on the basis of the interest of Jamaica. As a postscript may I ask, please, please publish the findings.

time now...

To Work Out

The Politics of Movement

by Blackman

Surrounded by ves-men, left further and further behind by the jority of blackman, the Shearer-Manley clique now try desperately to be marooned, so Africa safaris, "Get the Facts" outings, "Meet the pie" tours. But the people can't be fooled. Every day on a hundred's piazzas, on street corner and in camp all over the people, youth as we older heads are working out the politics of movement for it is clear as that the old time business done with.

NEW SYSTEM, not NEW LEADER.

Some reason that Jamaica needs new blood young, educated with the interest of country at heart. These heads forget or do not from the fact that the majority of youth 65% of Jamaica under 25 educated, whether in school-room or on street-corner, and the discipl true freedom are for these very reasons out of party politricks. They that the system will change man before man can change the system. understand that it is not that no poorman's friend has been in polite but that you cannot remain true for long. They see that there are unen commandments which politicians have to obey to survive, no m how much honesty, brains or dedication they might have.

THIRD PARTY?

Some others who see that the system capture man rather man ge the system reason that we need a third party. The trouble is that third party have to work in the system same way. But let man see the again.

Many before us have tried the third party way. In fact, since there have been nineteen 'third' parties besides the PNP and JLP, example, Agri-Industrial Party (1949), National Labour Party (1962) me of these have been only a few opportunists coming together; others Millard Johnson looked more serious. All of them met the same fate ever. Not one ever got as much as 5 per cent of the vote, much less single candidate into the two-party-capitalist parliament. Not one la from one election to another even when such skillful politician like Hill was in charge. Why?

Not because the PNP-JLP were holding their support. We have that progressively they were losing people or at least not attracting y. Not because the third party leaders did not know the tricks of the t nor were illiterate - the Hills and Richard Hart failed; not because were uneducated or failed to give off black sounds. Look at Millard J son. None of these reasons show why no new vote-catching party has able to take up the support that the political gangsters have been loo

The truth is that the consciousness which has moved blackman and more away from PNP-JLP politricks is a consciousness that no movement/party or whatever that is primarily concerned with election be primarily concerned with blackman liberation. Elections was start Jamaica by whitemen in alliance with local middle-class to give the sul the vote so that imperialism and its hound-dog could keep every else. This is now seen. It was no surprise then that the JLP-PNP gang drafted the independence constitution with an eye to discriminate ag the blackpeople party of the time - the PPP. Why else they 'entrench only one Opposition Leader who would choose all the opposition se rs regardless of how many parties got elected to the House? Why elv to ensure that even if Johnson got elected to the House, he and his e would have no real say in upsetting the imperialist constitution. Blacks sees these things and learned from them. Elections is 'their' business signed to protect 'their' interests. Black people may use the white m device as a tactic against him but never as a strategy. Now the watchw is put by Brother Malcolm X "BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY". We d not be tied to electoral rules which the enemy makes and breaks (look the PNP-JLP record). By so doing he exposes what no third party has put before blackman - elections cannot be our primary concern. Hence reason why they all have collapsed - they failed to base themselves on rising consciousness of blackman on the move.

The second basic reason is that the third party, especially if it is dical, can never offer as many inducements to the few who still vote as established parties nor expect anything but repression from the ene. The PNP-JLP man promise a work on a scheme. Furthermore faced a serious third party threat, the imperialists and their local lackeys free all the funds taken from blackman to keep the two-party-capitalist ex pation going - WISCO, DELISSER, Hart, Public Service Co., superma merchants, Matalon, Issa, AShenheim, and all the others. Every third p in Jamaica today must face the prospect of starvation from lack of fu. Get some from abroad but how can that last? And even if mo kept coming long enough for an election campaign, how does the t party fight the police and propaganda of the power structure? No m that you talk the truth it can still be sedition; the police can brutalise p workers even though it might be illegal. And how will the liberation t party reach the people? through the "freedom-of-speech" radio, T.V. press. Forget that blackman - remember how much time the students last October to put their case! Where is Argument, News Analysis, Wh Your Grouse and, lately, Sons of Negus? All gone. From this we se old lesson again - no ruling class in history has ever committed suicide in the interest of freedom of speech nor anything else. The enemy in J ica will certainly not allow a blackman party to turn the instruments white power against white. And if revolutionary forces managed to ge the real problem would only then begin.